11. Instant Action Groups have been formed on certain nominated trains to check entry of unauthorised passengers in reserved coaches and persons carrying inflammable/explosive material.

12. The frequency of inspections and surprise checks has been increased . More safety drives have been launched.

Concession for Senior Citizens and School Teachers

361. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether railways have provided for some fare and related concessions for senior citizens and secondary school teachers;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) if not, justifications thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes,Sir.

(b) Senior Citizens of 65 and above are granted 25% concession in Second and Sleeper Class Main/Express fares. Teachers of Primary, Secondary, High and Higher Secondary Schools are granted 25% concession in Second and Sleeper Class Main/Express fares when travelling beyond 300 Kms. in groups of minimum four for educational tours of places of historical, geographical and cultural importance. The concession is granted on production of the requisite certificate from the Head Master/Head Mistress/Principal of the concerned school.

(c) Does not arise.

Introduction of New Trains

362. SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK :
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA BENDA CHAUDHARY:
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the demands made by the State governments, Members of Parliament and various organisations for introduction of new trains during the current year, train-wise;

(b) whether the new trains announced in the Budget 1997-98 and thereafter on various occasions have been introduced;

(c) if so, the names of new trains introduced by the Government in different States in the Golden Jubilee Year of Independence;

(d) the details of Railways Zones/Divisions through which these trains are running;

(e) the details of additional facilities being provided to the Railway commuters;

(f) the names of the new trains which are yet to be introduced alongwith the reasons for delay;

(g) whether there is any proposal to attach all type of coaches in the trains plying at present; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the reaosns for not attaching all type of bogies in all the trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Representations are received for introduction of trains at various levels of the Railway Administration . As the information is voluminous and involves repetition, these are not compiled train-wise.

(b) All the trains announced except the following. have been introduced :

1. Ahmedabad-New Delhi Rajdhani Exp. (Weekly).

2. Porbander-Delhi Sarai Rohilla Exp. (Weekly).

3. Howrah-New Jalpaiguri Express (Triweekly).

4. Vasco-Bangalore Express.

5. Amritsar-Jaipur Express (Bi-weekly).

6. Nizamuddin-Secunderabad Rajdhani Exp. (Weekly).

7. Koraput-Rayagada Link Express to Bhubaneshwar.

(c) Railways do not introduce trains State-wise.

(d) and (e) 101 trains-40 Express and 61 passenger trains serving commuters in the 9 Zonal Railways and covering about 40 Divisions have been introduced during 1997-98.

(f) Trains mentioned in part (b) of the reply have not been introduced due to operational and resource constraints.

(g) and (h) No,Sir. It is not feasible to attach all types of coaches in the trains.

DD Programmes in J & K

363. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan Programmes are visible in Doda, Rajauri, Poonch Kathna and other border districts of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if not, since when it is not visible;

(c) whether Pakistan's T.V. programmes are clearly visible in these areas; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to improve the visibility of programmes?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Pakistan TV programmes are received in the border areas of J & K State .

(d) With a view to improve Doordarshan's coverage in the State of J & K , 14 TV transmitter projects of varying powers are presently under implementation in the border districts of the State. Besides, two more High power TV transmitters (HPTs) are envisaged to be set up in Poonch and Rajouri districts subject to approval by the competent authority, availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities.

Dispute over Air Corridor

364. SHRI SATYAJIT SINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a dispute between Airport Authority of India and the Indian Air Force about Air corridor W-3-1;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as a result of this a mid-air collision has taken place recently and if so, the details of the incident;

(d) whether the matter has since been resolved; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There was no dispute, but the widening of this corridor was discussed between them.

(c) No,Sir.

(d) and (e) The matter has been settled by mutual consultation.

Delhi Apartment Ownership Act, 1986

365. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Builders cash in on delay in Act'and 'Notified for 11 years, enforced never' appearing in the 'Indian Express', New Delhi dated 24.9.97 and 25.9.97 respectively;

(b) if so, the facts reported thereon and action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the time by which the amendments in the Delhi Apartment Ownership Act, 1986 are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G.VENKATARAMAN) : (a) Yes,Sir.

(b) The reasons for non-implementation of the provisions of the Delhi Apartment Ownership Act is that immediately after notification of the Act, the Delhi Administration and the DDA who are the implementing authorities raised certain points relating to the appointment of a 'competent authority' as desired in section 3(m) of the Act. The matter was considered and a view was taken that the definition of "competent authority" needs to be amended, to enlarge the number of functionaries in view of the increasing number of apartment buildings coming up in the capital city. It was also felt that the provisions contained in several other sections of the existing Act were not adequate. Moreover, there were no penal provisions for non-compliance of the provisions in the Act, which rendered the Act a non-starter.

A working group was set up in June,1988 to examine and work out the modalities for speedy implementation of the Delhi Apartment Ownership Act. This Working Group had held several meetings and had recommended modifications to several provisions. The infirmities in the Act coupled with the need to control the activities of builders gave rise to the need for considering comprehensive amendments to the existing Act. It was felt that instead of making a few amendments in the existing Act, it would be appropriate to draft a comprehensive legislation, which would also cover issued relating to regulation of builders and developers and provide for protection to prospective flat or plot holders. Accordingly, the draft Delhi Apartment Ownership Bill is being formulated.

(c) On receipt of competent approval the Bill will be introduced in the Parliament shortly. It is in the final stage of drafting.

Irregularities at IGI Airport

366. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether cases of corruption and irregularities in the matter of issuing work permits, securing postings in the vigilance section and fleecing of passengers at the IG airport have been detected recently;